Approved For Release 2002/05/17: CIA-RDP72-00337R000200020040-1
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Department of State

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PR 260920Z MAR 70 FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2702 INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA CINCSTRIKE DIR/NSA

SECRET ADDIS ABABA 1173

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: PINCUS-PAUL HERTER UNDERTAKING

REF: STATE 5447

- 1. AGREE REFER PINCUS/PAUL TO WASHINGTON FOR TEXT TELEGRAMS IF THEY PURSUE.
- 2. QUESTION STATUS HERTER UNDERTAKING DID NOT ARISE. ONLY REFERENCE TO IT WAS AS BASIS FOR SUPPORT 40,000 MAN FORCE LEVEL.
- 3. IN VIEW OBVIOUS EFFORT PINCUS/PAUL OBTAIN BASIS SLASH MAP FROM \$12,000,000 TO LEVEL OF CONGO AND TUNISIA IRRESPECTIVE DIFFERING ECONOMIC SECURITY CIRCUMSTANCES ON THEORY THIS WOULD INDIRECTLY FORCE CLOSURE KAGNEW, I STRONGLY URGE WE NOT STATE HERTER UNDERTAKING COMPLETED. AS STATE AND DOD AWARE, EMBASSY DOES NOT AGREE ON FACTUAL BASIS THAT WE HAVE COMPLETED HERTER UNDERTAKING. IN ADDITION PROVISION STRONG ARUGUMENT FOR BUDGET SLASH, EFFECT ANY PUBLIC AIRING OF THIS VIEW ON IEG EXTREMELY DAMAGING FUNDAMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS.
- 4. FULL REPORT CONVERSATIONS TO FOLLOWSATURDAY WILL PROVIDE PERSPECTIVE THIS STRONG RECOMMENDATION.
 HALL

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